

IRC-1

Log # 10-15  
(for office use only)

WASHINGTON STATE BUILDING CODE COUNCIL  
APPLICATION FOR REVIEW OF A PROPOSED STATEWIDE AMENDMENT  
TO THE WASHINGTON STATE BUILDING CODE

## 1. State Building Code to be Amended.

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> International Building Code               | <input type="checkbox"/> Ventilation and Indoor Air Quality Code |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> International Residential Code | <input type="checkbox"/> International Mechanical Code           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ICC ANSI A117.1 Accessibility Code        | <input type="checkbox"/> International Fuel Gas Code             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> International Fire Code                   | <input type="checkbox"/> NFPA 54 National Fuel Gas Code          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Uniform Plumbing Code                     | <input type="checkbox"/> NFPA 58 Liquefied Petroleum Gas Code    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> State Energy Code                         |  |

Section R302.5, R302.6,  
R309Page 51, 58

## 2. Applicant:

Annie O'Rourke

## 3. Signed:

Annie O'Rourke 2/28/10  
Proponent Title Date

## 4. Contact Person:

Annie O'Rourke  
Name Title  
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Port Angeles, WA 98302  
Phone: 360 417-5615 Fax: ( )

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SBCC

**5. Proposed Code Amendment** (Underline all added words, strike through deleted words) Additional pages may be attached.

Code 2009 IRC Section R302.5, R302.6 & R309 Page 51, 58

Amend section to read as follows:

~~R302.5 Dwelling/garage opening/penetration protection. Openings and penetrations through the walls or ceilings separating the dwelling from the garage shall be in accordance with Sections R302.5.1 through R302.5.3.~~

R302.5 Garage and Carports. Walls and/or ceilings separating the dwelling from the garage or carport shall be in accordance with Table 302.5.

Exception: Carports open on at least two sides.

R302.5.1 Opening protection. Openings from a private garage directly into a room used for sleeping purposes shall not be permitted. Other openings between the garage and residence shall be equipped with solid wood doors not less than 1-3/8 inches (35mm) in thickness, solid or honeycomb core steel doors not less than 1-3/8 inches (35mm) thick, or 20-minute fire-rated doors.

R302.5.2 Duct penetration. Ducts in the garage and ducts penetrating the walls or ceilings separating the dwelling from the garage shall be constructed of minimum No. 26 gage (0.48mm) sheet steel or other approved material and shall have no openings into the garage.

R302.5.3 Other penetrations. Penetrations through the separation required in Section ~~R309.2~~ R302.5.2 shall be protected as required by Section R302.11, Item 4.

~~R302.6 Dwelling/garage fire separation. The garage shall be separated as required by Table 302.6. openings in garage walls shall comply with Section R302.5. This provision does not apply to garage walls that are perpendicular to the adjacent dwelling unit wall.~~

*Renumber the balance of the sections appropriately.*

R309.1 Floor surface.

R309.1.1 Material. Garage and carport floor surfaces shall be of approved noncombustible material.

Exception: Asphalt surfaces shall be permitted at ground level in carports.

R309.1.2 Drainage. The area of floor used for parking of automobiles or other vehicles shall be sloped to facilitate the movement of liquids to a drain or toward the main vehicle entry doorway.

~~R309.2 Carports. Carports shall be open on at least two sides. Carport floor surfaces shall be of approved noncombustible material. Carports not open on at least two sides shall be considered a garage and shall comply with the provisions of this section for garages.~~

~~Exception: Asphalt surfaces shall be permitted at ground level in carports.~~

~~The area of floor used for parking of automobiles or other vehicles shall be sloped to facilitate the movement of liquids to a drain or toward the main vehicle entry doorway.~~

R309.3 R309.2 Flood hazard areas.

R309.4 R309.3 Automatic garage door openers.

#### 6. Background information on amendment.

**NOTE:** State-wide and emergency state-wide amendments to the state building code should be based on one of the following criteria:

- (1) The amendment is needed to address a critical life/safety need.
- (2) The amendment is needed to address a specific state policy or statute.
- (3) The amendment is needed for consistency with state or federal regulations.
- (4) The amendment is needed to address a unique character of the state.
- \*\*\*\* (5) The amendment corrects errors and omissions.

The re-write of Chapter 3 resulted in the breaking up of section **R309 Garages and Carports** in the 2006 IRC. The goal of this code change is to format the information in the 2 new sections more logically, correct an editorial mistake and include some text that was omitted in the transition.

By changing the title of Section R302.5 to **Garages and Carports** it fits more logically with the other headings in this **Fire –Resistant Construction** section – R302.1 Exterior Walls, R302.2 Townhouses, R302.3 Two-family Dwelling, etc. Adding the fire separation text at the front of this section provides logic to the following 3 sub-sections that require protection of openings and penetrations of said separation. Included here, rather than in R309.2, is an exception for carports needing the fire separation if 2 sides are open.

In section R309, reformatting the floor surface section and adding a drainage section allows for less text to say the same thing. There is no content change proposed here only the relocation of the carport requirements.

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## Economic Impact Worksheet

(Required for statewide amendment requests. Attach supporting documentation.)

Code References: 2009 IRC Title: garages & carports  
Proponent: Annie O'Rourke Phone: 360 417 5615 Date: 2-28-10

## Part I ♦ Amendment Benefit:

PROBLEM(S) ADDRESSED: Editorial changes as a result of R302  
NWCH

## PRIMARY REASON FOR AMENDMENT: (check one only)

- ☐ Protect public health, safety and welfare
 ☐ Mandate from legislation or courts  
☐ Reduce cost
 ☐ Code change  
☐ "Manage risk" for government
 ☒ Other clarification

## TYPE OF BENEFITS PROJECTED: (check all that apply)

- ☐ Saves lives/reduces injuries
 ☐ Saves energy  
☐ Protects/improves long-term health
 ☐ Protects environment  
 Reduces construction cost:
 ☐ Increases accessibility  
☐ Over existing code requirement
 ☐ Reduces regulation  
☐ Canceling new code requirement
 ☐ Reduces government enforcement cost  
☐ Off-setting new code requirement
 ☒ Clarifies/improves existing code  
☐ Increases construction alternatives
 ☐ Protects property loss/damage  
☒ Other clarification

## Part II ♦ Amendment Impacts:

TYPES OF CONSTRUCTION: ☒ New Construction ☒ Remodeling/Tenant Improvement/Repair

## COMPLETE TABLE FOR EACH BUILDING TYPE CHECKED

(See reverse for instruction on items <sup>a</sup> through <sup>e</sup>)

✓	Building Type	Construction <sup>a</sup> 1st Cost		Enforcement <sup>b</sup>		Owner <sup>c</sup> Ongoing		Other		Supporting data attached
	Residential	C/S <sup>d</sup>	Degree <sup>e</sup>	C/S <sup>d</sup>	Degree <sup>e</sup>	C/S <sup>d</sup>	Degree <sup>e</sup>	C/S <sup>d</sup>	Degree <sup>e</sup>	✓
✓	Single family	-	0	-	0	-	0			
	Multi-family									
	Commercial/Retail									
	Industrial									
	Government/Utilities									
	Other:									

## OTHER EFFECTS:

Evaluate by number scale 0-3 (0=none, 3=significant)

- ☐ Likelihood for litigation  
☐ Decrease public cooperation  
☐ Disadvantage small business  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_

Evaluate by letter code

(Spec, Custom, Factory, Remodel, Manufact., Other, NA)

- NA Advantage one industry  
 NA Disadvantage one industry

## Part III ♦ Comments and Recommendations:

Evaluate each by number scale 0-3 (0=none, 3=significant)

- ☐ Difficulty to Enforce
 ☐ Cost of not adopting amendment  
☐ Costs exceed Benefits
 ☐ Degree of TAG controversy  
☐ C/S Confidence level

Evaluate Yes or No (circle one)

- Y / ☒ Were alternative solutions considered  
 Y / ☒ Recommend further benefit/impact analysis  
 Y / ☒ Recommend future benefit/impact review